

Confirmation Candidate (please print)

Teacher's name

St. Matthew Catholic Church  
Confirmation Program

**Affirmation of Baptismal Name or Selection of Confirmation Name**

The tradition of selecting a Confirmation name dates back to pre-Vatican II times. At that time in Church history, Confirmation candidates were encouraged to take on the name and characteristics of a saint of their choosing. As Catholics, we know the power of having Mary and the saints pray for us. Many saints are patrons of different things, which means they are the special protectors or supporters of certain areas. You may decide on a saint based upon what they are the patron of, but regardless of what you decide, they become the patron saint of YOU! That means that they will be looking out for you in a special way your entire life. So, choosing a saint and taking on their name is not just one more thing you "have to do" to get Confirmed, but rather, it's a big part of this important step in your life and a true reflection of the beauty of your Catholic faith. So please, take some time, put real thought into it, and find a saint with whom you truly connect.

The Church also allows candidates to keep the name given to them at Baptism, since part of the Rite of Confirmation calls for the renewal of baptismal vows parents made on behalf of their infant children.

*This name is the name that will be recorded on your Confirmation certificate and entered into Church records. It is also the name the Bishop will use when anointing you with chrism at your Confirmation. Complete the form and follow the instructions for completing the report.*

The name and saint I have chosen for Confirmation: \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete on a separate piece of paper...a brief report about YOUR saint.**

Often people question why they have to write a report about a saint. This report is just a way to get to know more about the saint you are choosing. The real importance is in truly learning about different saints in order to find a saint that you really feel a connection with! Do some research on the life of the saint whose name you have chosen for your Confirmation. Give a short biography of their life. List and elaborate on the character traits and qualities this person possessed that may help you during this journey toward Confirmation. How will those qualities help you to lead a life of witness and service to the Church and those in need long after you are confirmed? Is there anything else about this person's life that you can identify with? Make sure you describe the reason or reasons why you picked your saint.

Find out about saints at [www.catholic.org/saints](http://www.catholic.org/saints) and at [www.lifeteen.com](http://www.lifeteen.com). Remember, this is only a starting point for your research. Papers that are printed directly from a website will be returned to you to be completed again in a manner that is acceptable.

Reports are **NOT** to be taken directly from a website. **YOU** need to do actual research and write a paper about your saint.

This form and the 1 <sup>1 Saint</sup> page report are due by session 3.